

**Railroad station Vacha,  
border East/West Germany (1949-89)  
50.8284N, 10.0324E**





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On June 1, 1879, the railway line from Salzungen via Dorndorf to Lengsfeld was opened as the first meter gauge line for public transport in Germany. In the same year, a branch to Vacha was opened to traffic from Dorndorf station.

When, towards the end of the 19th century, extensive potash deposits were developed in the Werra and Feldatal valleys, the narrow-gauge railway became very important for the construction of the mines and the removal of the mined products, and Vacha developed into a transport hub in the Werra potash district. The standard-gauge Werra Valley Railway, opened in 1903 from Gerstungen to Dankmarshausen, was extended to Vacha via Heringen by October 1905. The narrow-gauge railway between Vacha and Salzungen was converted to standard gauge in 1906 as an extension of this line. On August 1, 1906, the Ulster Valley Railway to Geisa was put into operation. A basalt loading station for the basalt mining on the nearby Öchsenberg and the Vacha depot was set up at the station.

During the Second World War, the station and its tracks remained largely undamaged. Nevertheless, the war had far-reaching effects on railway operations around Vacha: The routes in a westerly direction to Gerstungen and Geisa and thus also to the potash shafts in Unterbreizbach ran in sections through Hessian territory and thus from 1945 in the US occupation zone. Maintaining operations was characterized by difficult negotiations between the occupying powers. Since the Americans, for their part, needed the route via Gerstungen for the transport of potash salt from the shafts near Heimboldshausen, a corridor solution was negotiated for traffic to and from Unterbreizbach / Geisa, which lasted until the beginning of July 1952. However, when the GDR stopped transit traffic from Heimboldshausen via Gerstungen in the direction of Bebra, the railway connections between Vacha and Philippsthal were finally interrupted. In order to keep the Unterbreizbach potash plant connected to the rail network of the GDR, the regime built a bypass via Sünna with great logistical and propaganda effort by November 1952.[1] The Kraftverkehr Bad Salzungen depot on the southern outskirts of Vacha was built in 1957-61 to handle passenger transport to and from Unterbreizbach and Geisa with buses.[2] This made Vacha station a through station on the Bad Salzungen–Unterbreizbach railway; the Ulstertalbahn was shut down and the remaining rail connection to Philippsthal on the Werratalbahn, on which there had been no passenger traffic between Philippsthal and Vacha since 1945, was interrupted at the state border on September 29, 1962 after cross-border freight traffic was stopped and later dismantled on the Hessian side .

The turning point and peaceful revolution in the GDR brought about a decline in the volume of traffic on the extensive Vacha station site. Basalt mining at Oechsenberg was discontinued in 1990, and basalt loading at Vacha station was closed and dismantled. With the cessation of potash traffic on the route to Unterbreizbach after the commissioning of a new connecting curve from Unterbreizbach to Philippsthal, passenger traffic from Bad Salzungen to Vacha and thus all traffic at Vacha station ended in 2001. The interest group for traffic history in the middle Werratal e. V. took care of the maintenance of the railway facilities in Vacha and on the route towards Bad Salzungen on a voluntary basis from 2001 onwards.

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Born 1959 and raised in Vercelli (Italy), I produce images since 1975, mostly pictures and graphics.

I lived in Vercelli, Italy, Berlin and Bad Hersfeld, Germany. Since 2015 I live in south Sweden.

Since 2009 I'm active as a full-time media artist, with paintings, photographs, video, digital art, sculptures. Sometimes I write lyrics.

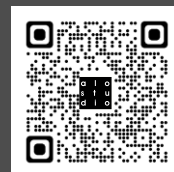
Between 1978 and 85 I had a cooperation with the magazines "The Dark Side" and "Circolo Pickwick", I was also co-founder by the project of the magazine "Mixed" and directed the art-zine "Audax".

Since 1987 began my collaboration with Studio Dieci, for which I was active as rapporteur on image processing.

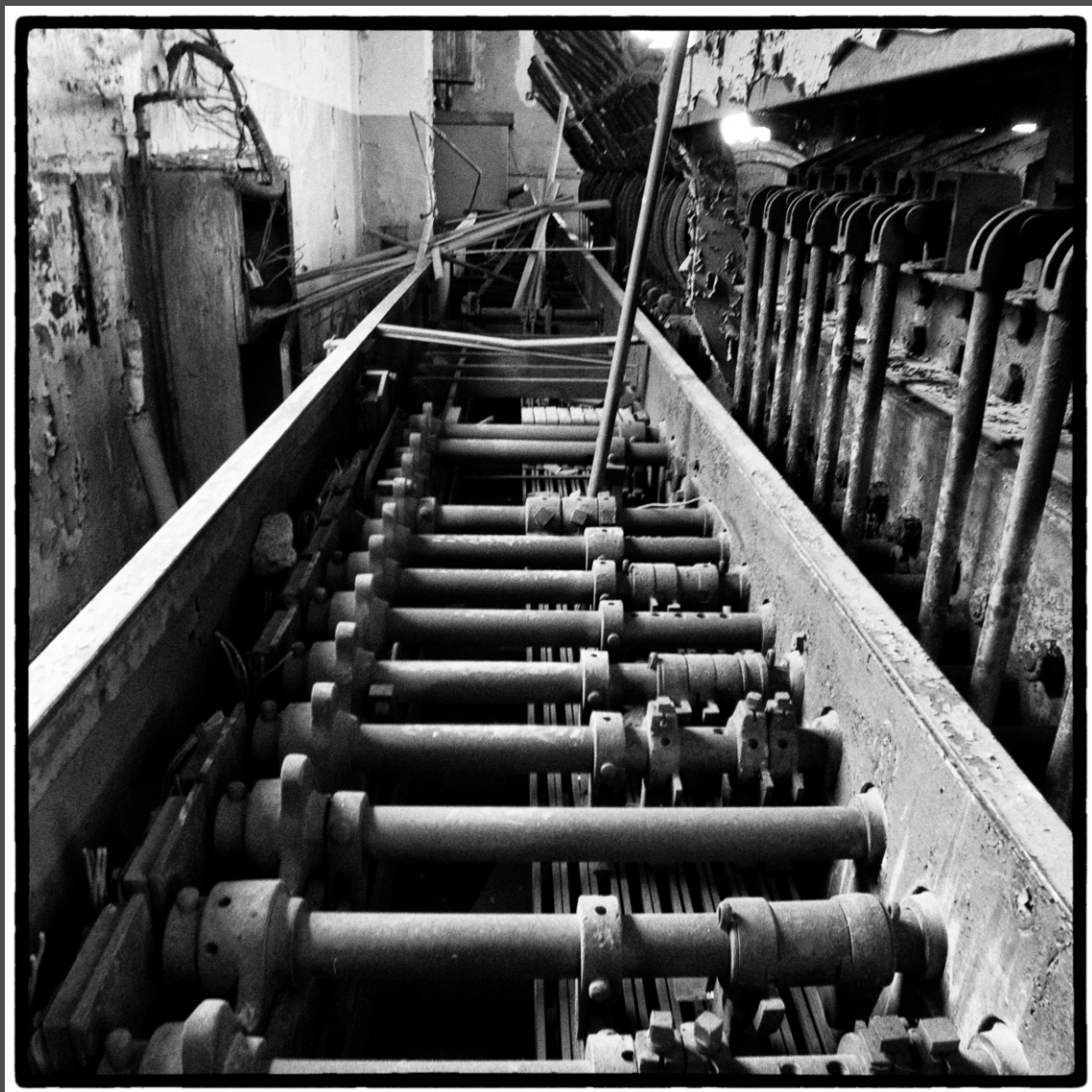
Since 1978 I am interested in computer graphics.

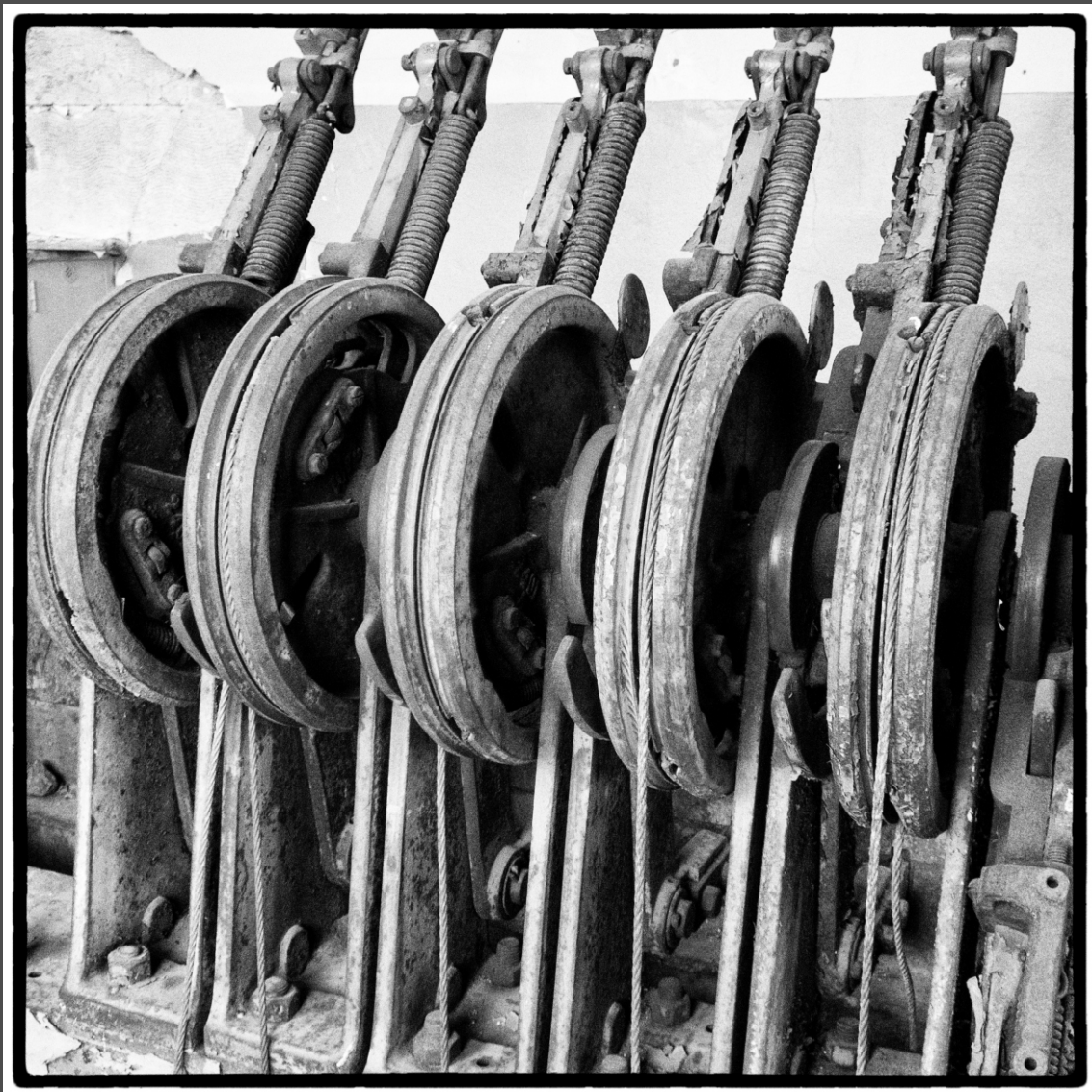
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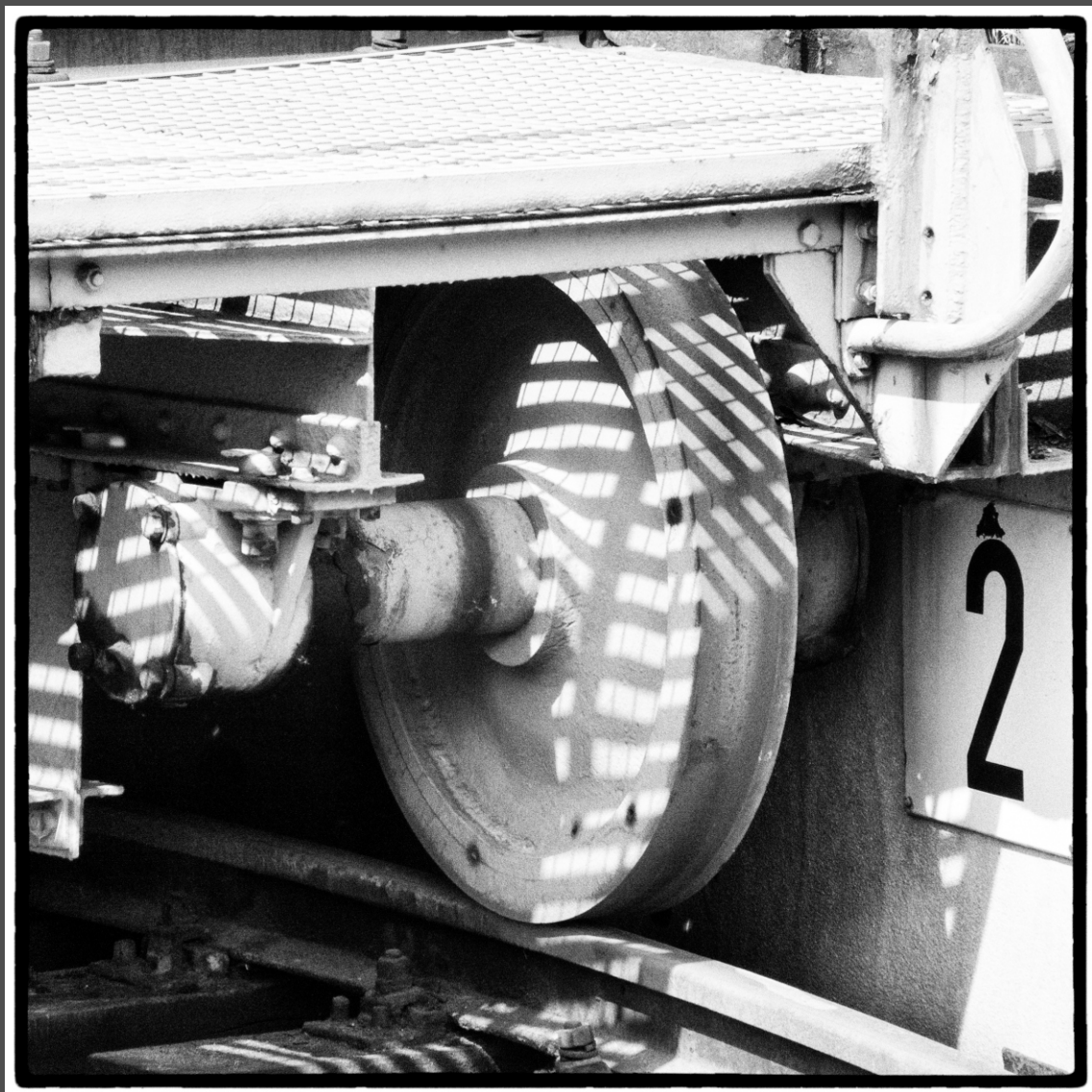












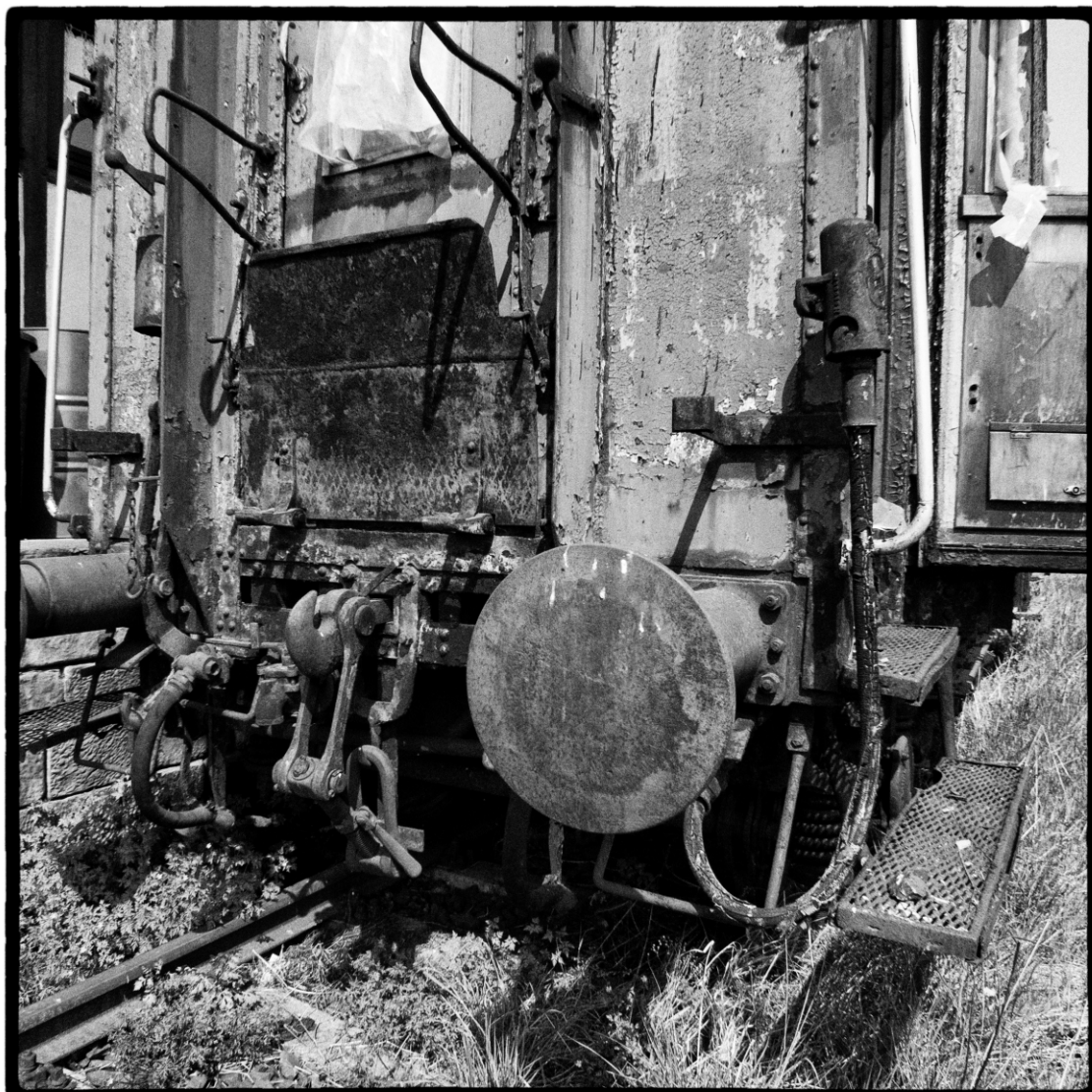










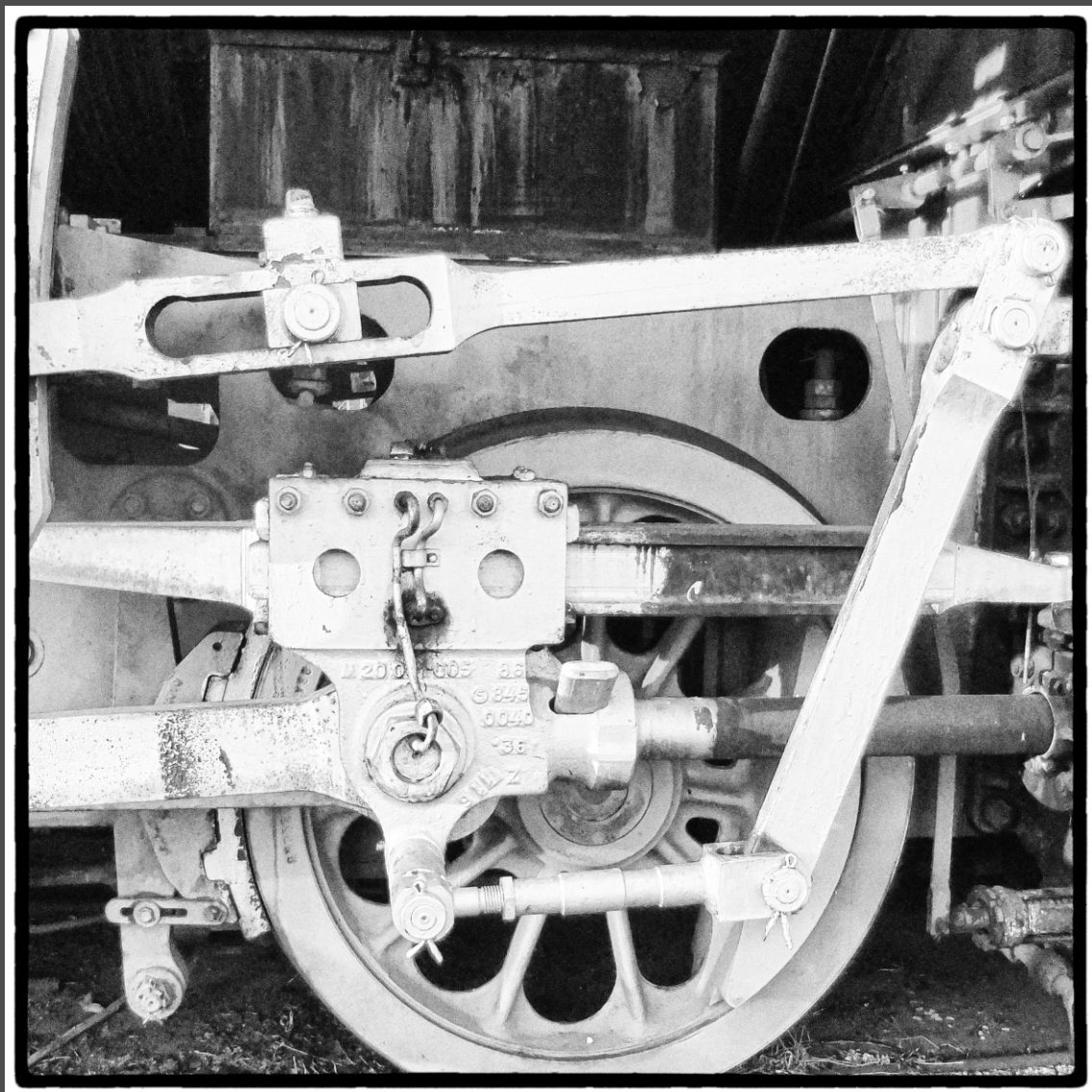






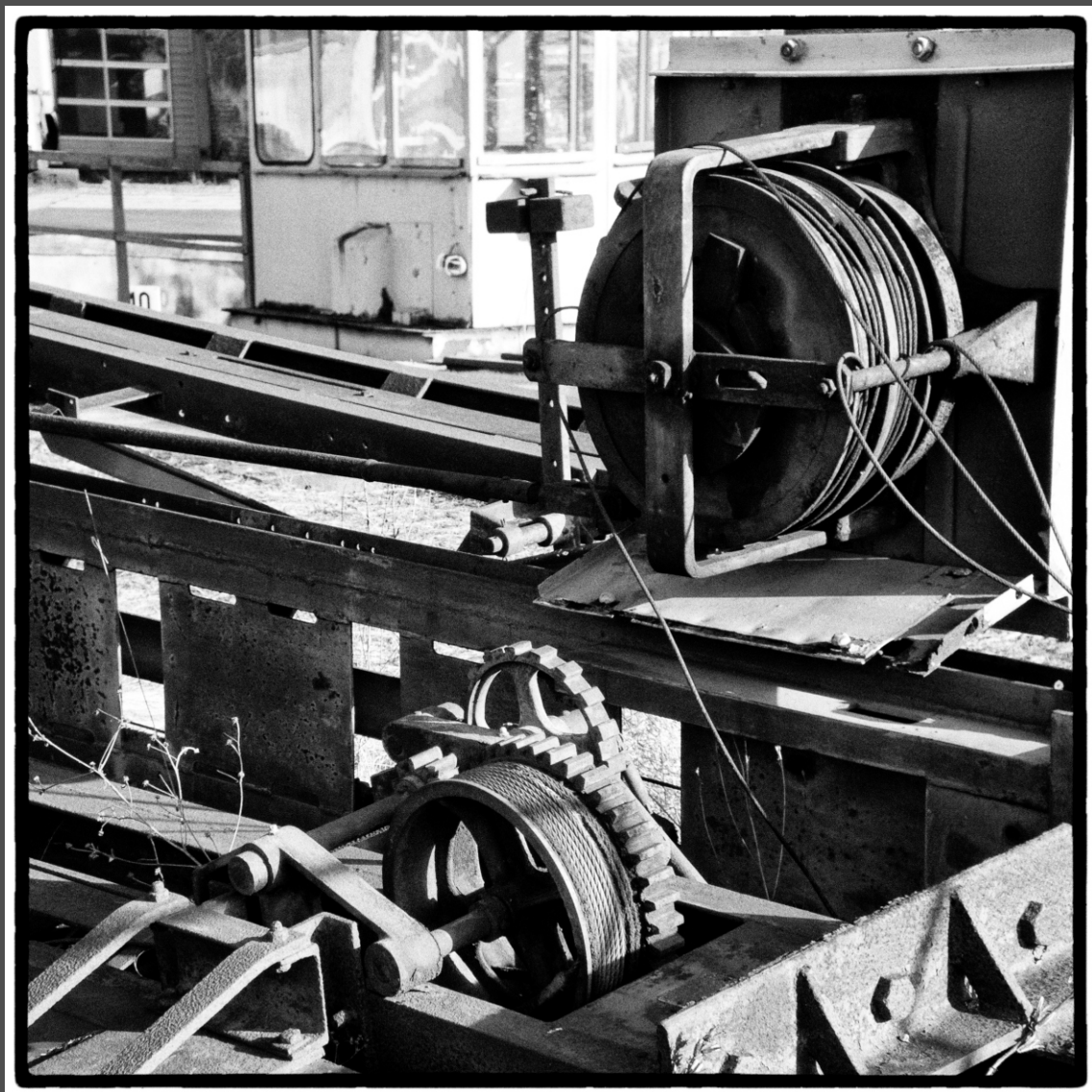




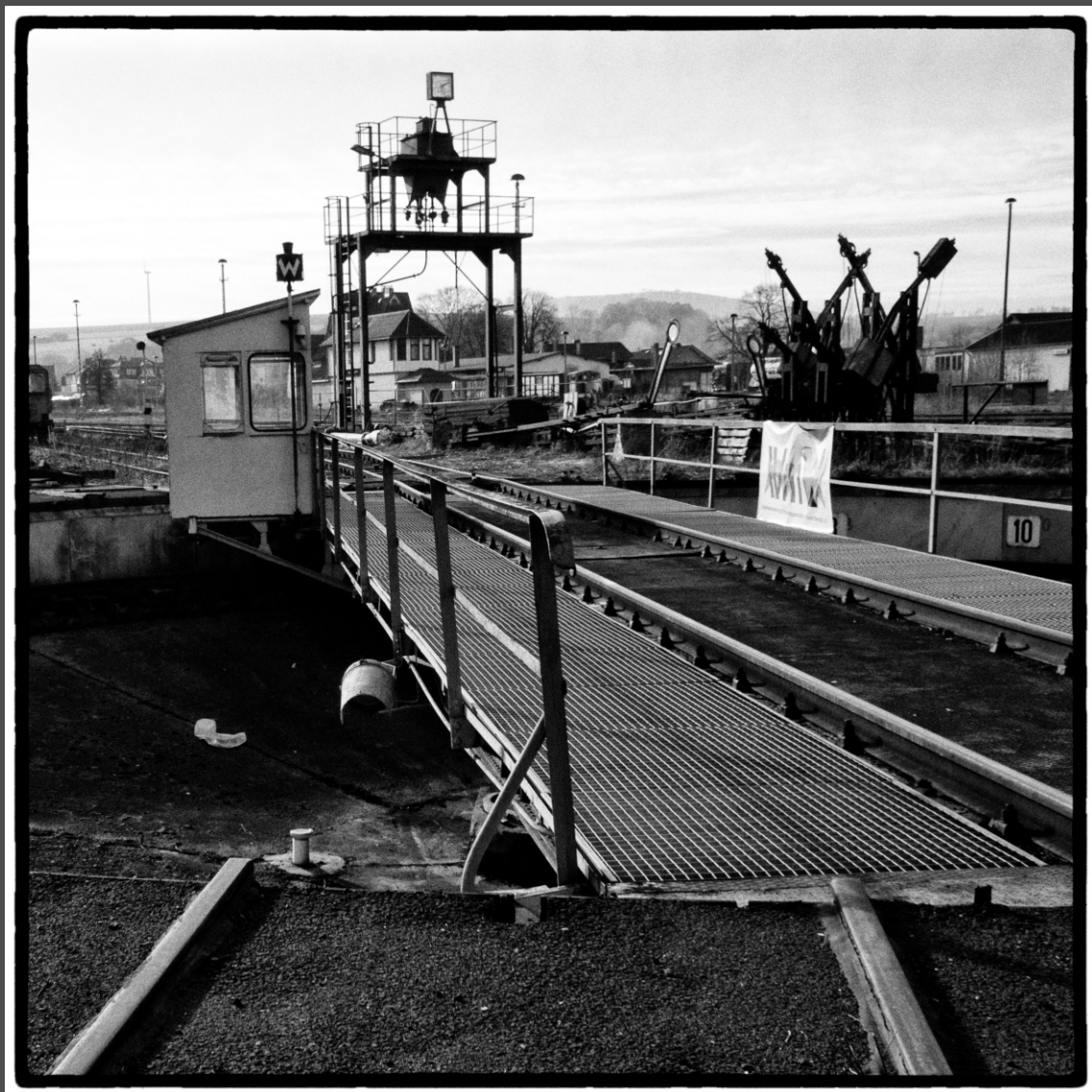














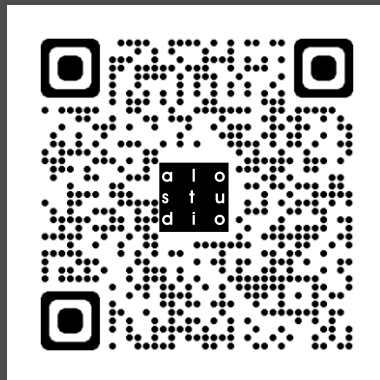












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